

# GIVE IT AWAY NOW

*“Thirst for Change” Edition*

## EDGE NIGHT OUTLINE

### SCRIPTURE & CCC:

- John 4:4-26
- Isaiah 55:1-5
- Exodus 17:1-7
- CCC 1928-1942
- CCC 1238
- CCC 537

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Promotional Poster (in July 2010 Edge Support box)
- Props for skit
- Posterboard
- Markers
- Paper “water” droplets (1-2 for every youth) about the size of a large index card.

### GOAL

This is our third annual Global Edge Night and Service Project. This year we are focusing on the corporal work of mercy of “giving drink to the thirsty.” This Edge Night will give the youth an awareness of the lack of clean water to millions of people in the world. Through a “change drive,” the global Life Teen and Edge community will raise money to build and maintain four water wells in Africa. Finally, this Edge Night will reveal Christ as “living water” for all our needs.

### EDGE NIGHT AT A GLANCE

In September of 2008, Life Teen hosted the first global Life Night and Edge Night and as one family, we donated over 300,000 pounds of clothing to charity. In September 2009, we moved from clothing to food and we were able to donate over 200,000 food items to local food pantries and soup kitchens. This year we are at it again. This time we are joining together to “give drink to the thirsty” (another corporal work of mercy). We are asking all our Life Teen and Edge parishes to do the same Edge Night on the same night – September 27, 2010 (or as close to that date as possible). This time we are collecting change (and bills) to bring clean drinking water to villages in Africa.

This Edge Night starts with a funny skit about water. The Proclaim will highlight the current water crisis in many parts of the world and ways that the youth can be a part of the solution. The talk will also tie in our call as Christians to work for justice and live in solidarity with all people. During the Break, the youth discuss in small groups the importance of

water, both physically and spiritually. Finally, the Send is a reflection on the water of Baptism and Christ as the Living Water.

### CHANGE DRIVE

This year, we are asking parishes to host a “change drive.” The money collected will be donated to W.A.T.E.R., an organization that works closely with Catholic Relief Services to build and maintain water wells in Africa. As in years past, this type of service project will take a lot of advance planning and advertisement.

At least one month before the Edge Night, let the youth and the entire parish know about the change drive. Use Facebook, flyers, posters, bulletin announcements, emails and phone calls to get the word out. Encourage the youth and their families to collect and save all their extra change. Challenge the youth to make a bigger donation by setting aside some of their allowance or money received as a gift or from working small jobs to donate to this cause. At each Edge Night leading up to this night, remind the youth about the change drive. If possible, make an announcement (and/or pass out flyers) at each of the Sunday Masses the week before the change drive. Encourage the entire parish to get involved. Set a parish goal of a certain amount and see if the parish can surpass the goal!

The weekend before the Edge Night, have large water jugs (or another large container) available outside of all the Masses for parishioners to drop off their change (and bills). If possible, have youth present to hold the jugs and invite the parishioners

to participate. Have large water jugs for donations at the youth office and Edge Night location as well.

## ENVIRONMENT

Have lots of water bottles at the front of the room with various amounts of water in each one. Have the bottles casually placed or stacked, not appearing to be trash but making a statement. Ask the Core Team to save and collect the water bottles they use a month prior to this Edge Night. During the night, the water bottles can be used to point out how much water we have available and how we take that for granted.

## AFTER THE EDGE NIGHT

After the Edge Night, email your parish's monetary donation total along with one group picture that includes a sign with your parish's name, city, state, country (if outside the US) to [giveitawaynow@lifeteen.com](mailto:giveitawaynow@lifeteen.com). We will post the totals, along with pictures from all the parishes on [www.lifeteen.com](http://www.lifeteen.com) in the weeks following the Global Edge and Life Nights. Please send us your results no later than October 18th.

## GATHER

### OPENING SONG

See song suggestions in Media Suggestions sidebar.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

1. As the youth enter the room, encourage them to place their coins/bills into the large jugs or containers throughout the room.

2. Welcome and introduce new teens.

3. Recognize and celebrate any youth or Core celebrating a birthday by singing "Happy Birthday."

4. Present a brief overview of the session.

### OPENING PRAYER

This prayer should be based on the overview of the session. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and understanding about the theme/topic for the night and a greater awareness of other people's needs, especially for clean drinking water.

### WATER SKIT

This skit should allow a few Core Members to really have some fun. You will need about four or five Core Members for the skit, a glass of water, stool and a comb. Place the glass of water on the stool at the front of the room.

Immediately after the Opening Prayer, one Core Member from the back of the room will scream, "WATER!" Slowly, the Core Member will walk around the room, periodically screaming, "WATER!" The Core Member will make it about two-thirds of the way to the water and then collapse.

A few seconds later, have the second Core Member begin screaming, "WATER" and again, slowly making his/her way toward the water at the front of the room. He/she will "crawl" over the first person and then collapse a few feet away from the water.

### MEDIA SUGGESTIONS:

- Song: "Remedy" by David Crowder Band (*Remedy*, Sparrows Records)
- Song: "Surely We Can Change" by David Crowder Band (*Remedy*, Sparrows Records)
- Song: "Hold Us Together" by Matt Maher (*Alive Again*, Provident Label Group)
- Song: "Love is Here" by Tenth Avenue North (*Over and Underneath*, Provident Label Group)
- YouTube: "World Water Day Video" by charitywater

**NOTES:**

# ***GIVE IT AWAY NOW***

*“Thirst for Change” Edition*

## **EDGE NIGHT OUTLINE**

Repeat this with the third and fourth Core Member, each time being silly and overdoing the calls for water. Have the Core Members crawl and inch closer to the water.

The fifth Core Member will have a comb in his/her back pocket. He/she will also slowly make his/her way up toward the water, crawling over the other four before finally reaching the coveted glass of water. The Core Member stands at the glass, picks it up and smiles. Slowly, he/she pulls the comb out, dips it into the water and then combs his/her hair. The Core Member finishes with, “Ah, water,” and then walks away.

### **WATER USES**

Give each small group a piece of paper and a marker. When you say, “Go!” The youth will need to come up with 15 ways they use water throughout the day. They will need to be creative. The first group to come up with 15 legitimate ways they use water wins a prize.

After you have declared a winner, allow a few groups to read some of the uses they had for water throughout the day.

## **PROCLAIM**

### **SCRIPTURE PROCLAMATION**

John 4:13-14

### **PROCLAIM TALK**

Begin by addressing the copious amounts of water bottles at the front of the room. Ask a few of the Core Members to share how many water bottles they brought and how many they use throughout the day/week.

### **WATER!**

We sometimes forget how easily we can get water. We could turn on any sink, bathtub, or hose and expect water to come out. The skit was a funny example of how we can be casual about water. Tonight, we want to challenge you to really examine how you use water, how easy it is to access water and to understand that there are people throughout the world who have no water at all.

On your list of ways you use water throughout the day, how many of them are absolutely necessary? Have you ever thought about how long you are in the shower? Or how long you leave the faucet running? Or how often you only drink half of a water bottle and then thrown it away? It probably sounds like that old saying, “Finish your dinner, there are starving people in the world.” And you wonder how finishing your plate will help someone who is starving.

The truth is, we are called to be mindful with the resources that we do have and recognize how blessed we are. Maybe we cannot ship every half empty water bottle around the world, but we can recognize when we are being wasteful and do our part to



**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# GIVE IT AWAY NOW

*"Thirst for Change" Edition*

## EDGE NIGHT OUTLINE

who was both physically thirsty and spiritually thirsty. Jesus is the one who can provide for us water and He is the Living Water who satisfies our thirsty souls. There will be times when you will feel "dry" in your spiritual journey. Jesus longs to be the one who satisfies your thirst and to give you the strength to help others who are thirsty as well.

### **CHARITY: WATER VIDEO**

This short video is a great illustration of the issues regarding clean water and how we can help those in desperate need. It can be found on YouTube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEnrE4iMBU>. It can also be downloaded from the Charity Water website at: <http://www.charitywater.org/media/videos/index.php?video=video4>

4. How can we be better about the amount of water that we use?

5. How can we help those in need of water?

6. What does it mean that we are spiritually thirsty?

### **MY PART**

Each group will have a posterboard and markers. On the poster, draw a large glass that fills the entire page. Give each youth a marker and ask them to write on the outside of the glass different ways they can begin conserving water. On the inside the glass, have the youth write ways they can help others who are both physically and spiritually thirsty.

### **SEND**

Have groups gather in the Church, near the Baptismal font for the Closing Prayer. Have the Baptismal font running to add to the prayer experience.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Give each youth one or two "water" drops and a pen/pencil.

When you are thirsty, you can reach for a bottle of water or turn on a faucet or head to a water fountain. This seems an easy solution to our physical thirst. But what about your spiritual thirst? There are times when our souls are thirsty and we try to quench our thirst with things from this world: relationships, music, sports, etc. Listen to this Scripture passage from the Gospel of John: "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink." Being spiritually thirsty can mean

### **BREAK**

#### **SMALL GROUP PRAYER**

As your small group begins, say a prayer for the group and the activities for that session.

#### **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION**

In your small group discuss the following questions:

1. What is one thing that stood out to you from the talk or video?
2. Were any of the statistics that you heard shocking to you?
3. Have you ever experienced being without water? What was that experience like?

several things: you feel dry and don't "feel" close to Jesus; you are in a place where you don't know where to turn because life feels exhausting; we feel thirsty when we see others suffering and we want to help.

On your "water" droplet, write a prayer asking Jesus to help you with your spiritual thirst. It could be about not feeling close to Him asking how you can have a closer relationship, you could ask Jesus to help you with some of the problems that distract you from Him or you could ask Jesus to help you when life seems to wear you out and you need to rest. On the backside or on a separate "water" droplet, write another prayer for someone who will receive help from your Give It Away Now Edge Night.

After some time of writing, allow the youth to come before the Baptismal font and place their prayers there. Invite them spend a moment or two in prayer and then bless themselves with the Holy Water and making the Sign of the Cross.

### **SUMMARY CHALLENGE**

Before the middle school youth are dismissed, they will be challenged to:

1. Water is a basic human necessity, but currently nearly one billion people do not have access to clean drinking water.
2. Christ calls us to action to help those in need of water. We can help through giving money, by helping others and by being aware of how much water we use.
3. In addition to our physical thirst, we can also have spiritual thirst. Christ is the Living Water who can satisfy.

### **TO THE PARENTS OF**

Tonight was our annual global Edge Night called "Give It Away Now: Thirst For Change." Leading up to tonight session, we have been asking the youth and the parish to help by donating their change (and bills) to help with our project to build water wells with the help of W.A.T.E.R. (Water in Africa Through Everyday Responsiveness). The goal is not to simply build water wells, but to help people to build the wells and educate them on proper maintenance and usage. A big part of our discussion tonight was to help the youth understand that every person has a right to clean, drinkable water. Christ even tells us in the Gospel of Matthew, "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me" (25:35).

Questions for the ride home:

1. What was the purpose for collecting the change? Where will the money go and who will it help?
2. How can we as a family get involved in helping others who need clean water?
3. In what ways can we as a family conserve water in our every day uses?

### **ADAPTATION IDEAS:**

- Instead of water bottles, you could use glasses of varying sizes and shapes and fill them with water.
- If you are not able to gather in the church or near the Baptismal font, use your regular gathering space and add the sounds of water (water fall, ocean waves, etc). Have a bowl of holy water in the front of the room.
- If you have time, allow the youth to help sort and roll the coins from the drive. Share the total amount collected with the group.